

**From:** Ray W Daugherty  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/26/02 1:15am  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Honorable Judges:

It is high time that this subject is laid to rest. In my opinion it never should have been started in the first place and accepted by the courts. I believe that the patent rights laws should have given protection to Microsoft for what they developed in their own laboratories. The drug companies have protection, why not Microsoft too? Ford and or Chrysler cannot sue General Motors to have them release the specific plans used to develop and produce the very efficient Cadillac 32V Northstar engine, can they? So, how come a competitor of Microsoft can do what they are trying to do?

The sniveling competitors that did not have the expertise to develop the programs on their own should have not even been listened to. They should even be charged for all the expense that Microsoft has been shackled with to defend themselves.

If someone develops a better mousetrap, he is entitled to any and all net proceeds that he can derive from it to compensate him for his time, efforts and ingenuity in developing it. The same principle should also protect Microsoft from undermining by unhappy competitors. They are entitled to any and all profits for their efforts!

Enough said! I will be eagerly observing what happens with this matter!

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: lists@senior.org  
To: raywdaugherty@juno.com  
Date: Fri, 25 Jan 2002 17:21:20 -0500  
Subject: SENIORS COALITION URGENT ACTION ALERT- Microsoft and big government  
Message-ID: <200201252221.g0PMLKK19835@seniors.2rad.net>

URGENT ACTION ALERT  
Your immediate response is needed!

Three years ago, the U.S. Department of Justice charged Microsoft with having engaged in anti-competitive behavior based on allegations by its top competitors. Many have argued that Microsoft was singled out by its jealous competitors and sympathetic government bureaucrats because of its success and a desire to see it punished.

The Justice Department is in the final stages of deliberating on the proposed Microsoft settlement to decide whether to accept the settlement or to litigate it further. The Seniors Coalition strongly believes that the proposed settlement offers a reasonable compromise that will enhance the ability of seniors and all Americans to access the internet and use innovative software products to make their computer experience easier and more enjoyable.

Unfortunately, a few of Microsoft's competitors have continued their aggressive lobbying campaign to undermine the settlement negotiated with the federal government and nine states. The settlement itself is tough on Microsoft, but is a fair outcome for all parties -- particularly senior consumers. Most important, this settlement will have a very positive impact on the American economy and will help pull us from the recession we have experienced over the past year.

You can offer your opinion to the Justice Department to counter the self-serving and punitive lobbying effort of Microsoft's competitors. Current law (known as the Tunney Act) allows public comment on the proposed settlement up until January 28th. The U.S. District Court will then decide whether the settlement is in the "public interest." Please send your strong message to the Justice Department that consumer interests have been well served, and the time to end this costly and damaging litigation has come.

Dragging out this legal battle further will only benefit a few wealthy competitors, lawyers, and special interest big-wigs. Not one new product that helps consumers will be brought to the marketplace.

**YOUR VOICE IS VERY IMPORTANT AND TIME IS VERY SHORT.**

Only comments received by January 28th will be included in the public record and submitted to the Court for its consideration. Consumers need to win this battle, so please send your comments immediately to the Justice Department -- either by email or by fax -- and do it before January 28th.

Don't let these special interests defeat the public interest.

Email: [microsoft.atr@usdoj.gov](mailto:microsoft.atr@usdoj.gov) . In the Subject line of the e-mail,type "Microsoft Settlement."

Fax: 1-202-307-1454 or 1-202-616-9937

To find out more about the settlement and the Tunney Act comment period, go to the Department of Justice Website at:  
<http://www.usdoj.gov/atr/cases/ms-settle.htm>

Raising your voice now on this issue really will have an impact.

Thank you for your time.

Mary M. Martin  
Chairman and Executive Director  
The Seniors Coalition

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